



NEWS RELEASE

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FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL SEEKS RE-ACCREDITATION

~ Accreditation team invites public comment ~

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Director of the Florida Highway Patrol, Col. John Czernis, announced today that assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. will begin to examine all aspects of the Florida Highway Patrol's policy and procedures, management, operations, and support services, later this month. FHP originally became accredited in November 1996, after proving that it complied with approximately 350 standards. The on-site inspection will confirm the Patrol's continued compliance with the applicable standards.

"Verification that the Florida Highway Patrol meets the Commission's state-of-the-art standards is part of a voluntary accreditation process – a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence," Czernis said. "Accreditation validates that FHP is among the best qualified and trained law enforcement agencies in the country."

The Commission conducts on-site assessments of agencies every three years. Between on-site assessments, agencies must submit annual reports that attest to continued compliance with those standards under which they were accredited.

As part of the on-site assessment, the assessment team invites members of the public and agency employees to offer comments by calling 1-877-423-7816 between 1 - 4 p.m., on Aug. 22, 2010. Comments are limited to 10 minutes and must address the agency's ability to comply with the Commission's standards. Persons who wish to offer written comments about the Florida Highway Patrol's ability to meet the standards for accreditation should send comments to the following address:

Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. 13575 Heathcote Blvd.
Suite 320
Gainesville, VA 20155

For more information regarding the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., please visit www.calea.org.